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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
U. S. NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN COMMAND
FPO AA 34099-6004

REFER TO:
31 May 2000

The Honorable Pedro Rosselló
Governor
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
La Fortaleza
San Juan, PR 00901

Subj: DRAFT IDENTIFICATION OF UNCONTAMINATED PROPERTY OF THE
NAVAL AMMUNITION SUPPORT DETACHMENT (NASD), VIEQUES
ISLAND, PUERTO RICO

Dear Governor Rosselló:

As outlined in my letter dated May 12, 2000, the Navy is required to identify uncontaminated property that will be transferred at NASD Vieques to comply with the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA), an amendment to the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Enclosed is our draft identification of uncontaminated property. To comply with CERCLA and the President's directive to transfer the property by December 31, 2000, the Navy and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico must agree on the identification of uncontaminated property at NASD Vieques by June 30, 2000. The actual transfer is still contingent upon enactment of authorizing legislation.

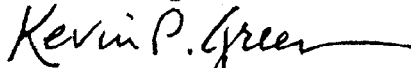
Of the approximately 7,878 acres of NASD Vieques property to be transferred, about 7,832 acres have been identified as uncontaminated and 46 acres as potentially contaminated. This uncontaminated property identification may be revised throughout the month in consultation with EQB and EPA as additional results from field investigation are received. The Navy discussed this process in detail with EQB and EPA during meetings in May. Another meeting is being scheduled for June 6 to continue our efforts to work closely together and complete the required analysis by the end of June.

The identification of uncontaminated property is an important and required environmental milestone in the transfer process for NASD Vieques. The Navy will provide the CERCLA covenant in the deed for the transfer for uncontaminated property, which states that any response action found to be necessary due to any hazardous substance on the property at the date of transfer shall be conducted by the United States. Areas identified as "potentially contaminated" will be transferred without this covenant and cleaned up after transfer. Upon completion of cleanup for the potentially contaminated property,

the Navy will provide a warranty stating that all response action necessary to protect human health and the environment with respect to any hazardous substance remaining on this property on the date of transfer has been taken.

We will continue to work closely with you and your staff toward the successful transfer of the NASD Vieques property while providing for future protection of human health and the environment. Should you or your staff have any questions they should contact Captain Lou Marchette at (787) 865-4204.

Sincerely,



KEVIN P. GREEN

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

Enclosure: Draft Identification of Uncontaminated Property at NASD Vieques, Puerto Rico

Copy to:

EQB (Attn: Mr. Héctor Russe Martinez, Ms. Luz Amalys Muriel-Díaz)

U.S.EPA Region 2 (Attn: Ms. Jeanne Fox, Mr. Robert Wing)

ASN (I&E) (Mr. Robert Pirie)

CINCLANTFLT (RADM Johnson)

CNRSE (RADM Moran)

CO NSRR (CAPT Stark)